Separately 252 shallow well wind pumps have been installed at different locations for drinking water/micro-irrigation purposes by BREDA, with financial assistance from DNES.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) BREDA has been requested to speed up the resource assessment. Based on this assessment, decisions for wind power generation will be taken. DNES has requested Bihar Government to instruct BREDA to speed up wind assessment studies.

Wind pump demonstration programme will be continued in the State during the Eighth Plan by BREDA, with assistance from DNES.

Increase in Generation of Wind and Solar Energy

1775. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the studies made in generation of wind and solar energy abroad;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to increase energy generation from wind and solar sources in our country; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up pilot schemes of wind and energy generation in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For generation of energy from Wind and Solar energy sources in the country. Government has takeh up a comprehensive programme covering research, development, demonstration and dissemination of various types of systems and devices based on these energy resources. Various types of financial incentives, such as, subsidy, soft term loans and fiscal incentives in the form of depreciation allowance and relief in sales-tax, excise duty and custom duty are provided to the users and manufacturers in different States and Union Territories of the country for harnessing and use of renewable energy systems and devices. Publicity and Awareness campaign are also being undertaken through All India Radio and Doordarshan network in addition to publicity efforts being made on decentralised basis various State Governments and Implementing Agencies.

(c) Solar thermal, Solar photovoltaic and Wind energy systems and devices for various applications continue to be installed under the on-going demonstration and dissemination programmes of the Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. A 550 KW Wind Farm Project has been established at Thirumala. The capacity of this project is being increased by 500 KW. Another Wind Farm project of 2 MW has recently been taken up at Ramagiri in Ananthapur District. In addition, a proposal for setting up of 2 MW Wind Farm project at Kakulkonda has been received from the State Government/Implementing Agency.

Failures in the Northern Regional Electricity Grid

1776. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of failures in the Northern Regional Electricity Grid that took place durng the previous and the current year, respectively;

(b) what are the factors responsible for these disruptions;

(c) whether any attempts have been made to evaluate the direct and indirect losses caused by these disruptions;

(d) whether Government have tried to fix some responsibility for such mishaps;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what measures are being taken to avoid such recurrences in future ?